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Conservation Commission Minutes 10/18/2012

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
October 18, 2012

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Charles Tirone, Eileen Coleman, Curt Connors, Chris Naylor, Michelle Durocher, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Also present were Justin Quattrini, Christine Deshler, and Clarissa Rowe.

7:45 pm – Commission Business:

The board met with Mr. Quattrini regarding the **Hemlock St. conservation land** to review a proposal to resolve the issues at this location. Mr. Stevens consulted with Irene DelBono at EOEA who approves Conservation Restrictions for the state and she offered some suggestions on how to resolve the situation. Mr. Stevens shared with Mr. Quattrini and the Commission a summary of his conversation with Ms. DelBono. Mr. Quattrini's proposal is based in part on Ms. DelBono's suggestions. Mr. Quattrini proposes as the first step to have the boundary surveyed. The fences on conservation land would be removed but the small retaining wall would be left in place and some fill brought in to prevent the drop off from being so steep. Wildflowers would be planted in the lawn area. Some arborvitae would be planted to provide screening. The fence and hot tub would be removed if they are on the conservation land. He also proposed building a small stone wall at the top of a steep 10 foot drop from the Cons. Land to the sidewalk on Hemlock St.

Mr. Tirone asked if the arborvitae and wall would close in the conservation land so that the public doesn't think they can access the lot.

Ms. Garnett proposed to check out the site conditions again after the survey is completed and the fence is removed to advise on types and locations of plantings.

Mr. Stevens proposed adding signage at Hemlock St for the conservation land.

Mr. Quattrini proposed to amend the proposed resolution based upon comments from the Commission. He will also add photos and measurements of the retaining wall. He will also obtain another quote for the survey work and return to our next meeting. The Commission agreed to visit the site before the next meeting on their own if any member so wished.

Ms. Rowe, discussed proposed exploratory work at **22 Mill St** to ascertain if the large London Plane tree is the cause of their foundation leaks. She would supervise a trench dug mostly by hand between the tree and the building. The Commission decided to write a letter of approving the minor exploratory work with conditions. If the tree just needs root pruning (along with a fungicide treatment) then matching branch pruning would also occur. White/Naylor motioned to approve this exploratory work with conditions discussed; motion passed unanimously.

White/Connors motioned to approve the **9/14 minutes**; motion passed unanimously.

Connors/White motioned to approve the **10/4 minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Coleman/Garnett motioned to approve the **8/16 minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Garnett met with Jonathan Charwick at the **Arlington Catholic athletic field** to review the removal of invasive plants and debris from the corner near Cookes Hollow. There was grape, barberry, bittersweet, euonymous and

sumac. A few shrubs (non-invasives) were also present. They will treat for poison ivy in the fall and spring, then mulch and level the area with some loam, then replant next spring..

The large pile of logs and chippings in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery adjacent to **Meadowbrook Park** have been removed but the grass in the area is still torn up.

The Commission directed Ms. Beckwith to draft a Notice of Non-compliance letter to the owners of **64 Wright St** for a shed.

Coleman/White motioned to approve the **2013 meeting calendar**; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator